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Hi-tech smuggling mastermind held

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A West German arrested in London masterminded a conspiracy that sent \$10 million in high-tech U.S. equipment to the Soviet Union — the largest such U.S. case ever, U.S. officials said Thursday.

According to CIA reports and other documents:

Werner Bruchhausen, 42, and his associates ran 10 dummy firms in Southern California and West Germany that sent 300 shipments to the Soviet Union, routing them through Germany and Switzerland.

Basically, the Soviets gave Bruchhausen a shopping list and he filled it, allowing them to build a state-of-the-art semiconductor plant.

"This is a great day," Deputy Commerce Secretary Theodore Wu said of the arrest. "We've been trailing him for four years. Now if we can get him extradited, we'll find out what else he knows about."

Bruchhausen's U.S. associate — Russian-born Anatoli Maluta, (alias Tony Maluta, alias Tony Metz) — formed four phony Los Angeles firms

to buy the equipment from Data General, Intel and Fairchild, telling them the final users would be air forces of the free world, nuclear power plants and a non-existent Arizona facility.

U.S. investigators were first tipped off by a letter detailing sale of a \$200,000 underwater sonar system and signed simply, "Former employee."

Invoices for top-secret electronics gear were stamped "Furnaces."

Two crates bound for Moscow were stopped by customs agents, emptied and filled with sand.

Bruchhausen, who evaded authorities for four years, was arrested in Britain Wednesday when detained for carrying an invalid Brazilian passport.